

With respect to claims 3 and 4, applicants have canceled those claims and added new claims 22 and 23 which include the description provided in old claim 2. With respect to claim 14 applicants have added new claim 24 which describes a release coating composition having the branched siloxane described in old claim 14. Applicants believe these changes should obviate the Examiner's objections and Applicants respectfully request the Examiner allow these claims.

In addition, applicants have canceled claim 2 and replaced it with claim 21, which provides for a release coating composition comprising a branched siloxane made by a specified method. There is no suggestion or motivation provided in the art cited by the Examiner to make the branched materials by the methods used by Applicants. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider her rejections and take prompt action to allow claims 6, 9-15, 19, and 21-24.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,



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Version with markings to show changes made

Claims 2, 3, 4, and 7 were canceled.

Claims 6, 9-15 and 19 have been amended as follows:

6. (Amended Once) An article having on at least one surface thereof a layer containing a cured silicone release composition according to claim 21 [2].

9. (Amended Once) A release coating composition according to claim 21 [2] wherein at least 50% of R^a substituents are alkenyl groups.

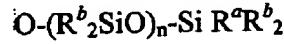
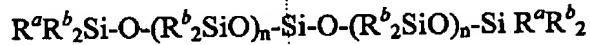
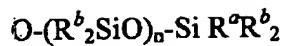
10. (Amended Once) A release coating composition according to claim 21 [9] wherein each R^a substituent is an alkenyl group.

11. (Amended Once) A release coating composition according to claim 21 [2] wherein the alkenyl groups are selected from vinyl and hexenyl groups.

12. (Amended Once) A release coating composition according to claim 21 [2] wherein each R^b substituent is an alkyl group selected from methyl and ethyl.

13. (Amended Once) A release coating composition according to claim 21 [2] where the branched siloxane contains at least two polydiorganosiloxane chains of the formula (R^b₂SiO_{2/2})_n where each n is independently from 2 to 100.

14. (Amended Once) A release coating composition according to claim 21 [13] where the branched siloxane has the general formula



where each n is independently from 1 to 100.

15. (Amended Once) A release coating composition according to claim 21 [2] having from 20 to 250 siloxane units.

19. (Amended Once) A release coating composition according to Claim 21 [7] where the branched siloxane has from 20 to 250 siloxane units.